



## 2015-2016 School Nominee Presentation Form

### ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATIONS

#### School and District's Certifications

The signatures of the school principal and district superintendent (or equivalents) on the next page certify that each of the statements below concerning the school's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. *In no case is a private school required to make any certification with regard to the public school district in which it is located.*

1. The school has some configuration that includes grades Pre-K-12.
2. The school has been evaluated and selected from among schools within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction, based on high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental education.
3. Neither the nominated public school nor its public school district is refusing the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) access to information necessary to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct a district wide compliance review. The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is not subject to the jurisdiction of OCR. The nominated DoDEA schools, however, are subject to and in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements to comply with Federal civil rights laws.
4. OCR has not issued a violation letter of findings to the public school district concluding that the nominated public school or the public school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes. A violation letter of findings will not be considered outstanding if OCR has accepted a corrective action plan to remedy the violation.
5. The U.S. Department of Justice does not have a pending suit alleging that the public school or the public school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clause.
6. There are no findings of violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in a U.S. Department of Education monitoring report that apply to the public school or public school district in question; or if there are such findings, the state or public school district has corrected, or agreed to correct, the findings.
7. The school meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

### U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools 2015-2016

Public  Charter  Title I  Magnet  Private  Independent  Rural

Name of Principal: Mrs. Nannette McCann

(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., etc.) (As it should appear in the official records)

Official School Name: Baton Rouge Magnet High School

(As it should appear on an award)

Official School Name Mailing Address: 2825 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

(If address is P.O. Box, also include street address.)

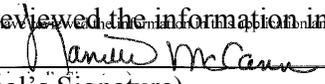
County: East Baton Rouge Parish State School Code Number \*: 017008

Telephone: 225-383-0520 Fax: 225-344-7413

Web site/URL: <http://ebr.oncoursesystems.com/school/webpage/12782476>

E-mail: [NGreer@ebschools.org](mailto:NGreer@ebschools.org)

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify that to the best of my knowledge all information is accurate.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Principal's Signature)

Date: 1/14/16



Name of Superintendent: Mr. Warren Drake

District Name: East Baton Rouge Parish

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify that to the best of my knowledge all information is accurate.

Warren Drake Date: 1/13/16  
(Superintendent's Signature)

**Nominating Authority's Certifications**

The signature by the Nominating Authority on this page certifies that each of the statements below concerning the school's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of the Authority's knowledge.

1. The school has some configuration that includes grades Pre-K-12.
2. The school is one of those overseen by the Nominating Authority which is highest achieving in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
3. The school meets all applicable federal civil rights and federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

Name of Nominating Agency: Louisiana Department of Education

Name of Nominating Authority: Mrs. Jill Cowart  
(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., Other)

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify to the best of my knowledge that the school meets the provisions above.

Jill Cowart Date: 1/26/2016  
(Nominating Authority's Signature)

**SUMMARY AND DOCUMENTATION OF NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS**

Provide a coherent summary that describes how your school is representative of your jurisdiction's highest achieving green school efforts. Summarize your strengths and accomplishments in all three Pillars. Then, include concrete examples for work in every Pillar and Element. Only schools that document progress in every Pillar and Element can be considered for this award.

**SUBMISSION**

The nomination package, including the signed certifications and documentation of evaluation in the three Pillars should be converted to a PDF file and emailed to [ed.green.ribbon.schools@ed.gov](mailto:ed.green.ribbon.schools@ed.gov) according to the instructions in the Nominee Submission Procedure.

OMB Control Number: 1860-0509  
Expiration Date: March 31, 2018

**Public Burden Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1860-0509. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 37 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit P.L. 107-110, Sec. 501, Innovative Programs and Parental Choice Provisions. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202-4536 or email [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) and reference the OMB Control Number 1860-0509. Note: Please do not return the completed ED-Green Ribbon Schools application to this address.



## Louisiana Green Schools Application for Green Ribbon Schools

### School Contact Information

School Name: Baton Rouge Magnet High School  
 Street Address: 2825 Government Street  
 City: Baton Rouge State: LA Zip: 70810  
 Website: http://ebr.oucoursesystems.com/school/webpage/12782476/1265350  
 Principal Name: Nannette McCann  
 Principal Email Address: NGreer@ebrschools.org Phone Number: 225-383-0520  
 Lead Applicant Name (if different): Josetta LeBoeuf  
 Lead Applicant Email: jleboeuf@ebrschools.org Phone Number: 225-205-2566

### School Information

Level <input type="checkbox"/> Early Learning Center <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary (PK - 5 or 6) <input type="checkbox"/> K - 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Middle (6 - 8 or 9) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High (9 or 10 - 12)	School Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private/Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Charter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Magnet	How would you describe your school? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural	District Name <b>East Baton Rouge Parish</b> Is your school in one of the largest 50 districts in the nation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <hr/> Total Enrolled: <b>1485</b>
Does your school serve 40% or more students from disadvantaged* households? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	% receiving FRPL <b>38%</b> % limited English proficient <b>0%</b> Other measures		Graduation rate: <b>100%</b> Attendance rate: <b>96%</b>



## **Part II: Summary Narrative:**

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Baton Rouge Magnet High School (BRMHS) is a K-12 public school that continually strives to maintain a healthy and sustainable environment for both our faculty and students. Recent renovations to the 90 year old building have substantially improved both our energy and our water consumption. The Health Centers in Schools initiative combined with school's extra-curricular clubs provide our students with services and experiences to keep them healthy and happy. All of these efforts allow the students to have the best possible experiences during their academic career.

The original building was constructed in 1926 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The campus grounds have more than 25 live oak trees which are each over 75 years old. The building underwent renovations and reopened to students in 2012-2013. The building is now 360,000 square feet. The new renovations allowed for the installation of several types of energy and water saving pieces of equipment. A recent energy and water assessment revealed savings in both water and energy were significant to those of over the last few years. These efforts and results earned our school the Professional Grounds Management Society Green Star Merit Award in 2015. Additional design elements such as sensed lighting, double paned windows, and the use of skylights have also further contributed to our energy usage reduction. A survey conducted to assess student transportation use revealed that roughly 76% of the students are using public transportation (school or city bus) or carpooling to school daily. A final innovation started because our school district does not have a program in place for recycling. Our students assumed the responsibility of coordinating a school wide effort for recycling paper and other materials, to further reduce the amount of paper waste going to local landfills.

BRMHS makes every effort to ensure the environmental health and safety of our students and staff. The building is equipped with a high efficiency air filtration system to improve indoor air quality. Our science department incorporates "small scale" lab practices that help reduce chemical use and waste generated, and chemicals are handled and stored in a secure room designated for this purpose. Handling, storage, and disposal procedures follow EPA/OSHA standards.

Specialized staff is available to meet students' physical and mental health needs. We have a full time nurse on staff that coordinates hearing and vision checks, the administration of flu vaccinations, and serves as a sponsor for our Healthy Lifestyles club. All four guidance counselors hold graduate degrees and one is a licensed clinical therapist. The ICare Program provides additional services once a week which include one-on-one counseling, classroom instruction on alcohol drug abuse, and education on suicide prevention.

BRMHS offers several curricular and extra-curricular programs which are designed to encourage our students to make healthy choices and become actively engaged in the community. The Healthy Lifestyles club



has made great progress in bringing many health issues like healthy eating habits and stress reduction to the attention of our students and faculty. The Club is currently coordinating a wellness event to help reduce stress during our spring testing. They also are offering healthier snack options for the students who remain on campus after regular school hours for extra-curricular activities. SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) coordinates several fun and engaging events throughout the year that inform and encourage students to make good decisions about drugs, smoking, driving, and suicide.

Our athletic department offers the traditional physical and health education courses along with specialized classes for athletes. More than 63% of our students are enrolled in these courses. All students in East Baton Rouge Parish are provided with a breakfast and lunch at no cost. These meals are planned according to USDA guidelines and factor in student preferences for healthy food items in order to encourage students to eat school meals. We are piloting the use of vending machines containing salads, sandwiches, and yogurt parfait (also at no cost to students) to offer more healthy choices to our school cafeteria's hot meal option.

Over the last 6 years, BRMHS has seen exponential growth in environmental studies. From a humble beginning of just two sections of Environmental Science, our program has now expanded to 5 sections of Environmental Science and 3 sections of AP Environmental Science. We now teach 200 students every year! Not only has our program grown, but the rigor increased as well. Our students consistently score higher than average on the AP test. Not only are our students excelling in the classroom, but they are also winning many competitions and actively establishing new community service projects.

## **Part III: Documentation of State Evaluation of District Nominee**

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### **Pillar I: Reduced Environmental Impact and Costs**

#### *Element IA: Energy*

Baton Rouge Magnet High School has reduced their overall energy consumption by more than 60% from 2012 through 2015. We were able to achieve this impressive reduction through the installation of new, energy efficient mechanical equipment, and through construction and design features. Examples of the energy efficient equipment include:

- Condensing boilers
- Variable flow primary chillers
- 5 Aonaire energy recovery wheels
- Soft start/reduced voltage combination starters with variable frequency drives
- Lighting control system incorporating daylighting controls

Our construction and design features include:

- Double-paned glass with UV filter
- Sky lights in hallways on 3<sup>rd</sup> floors
- ENERGYSTAR appliances in break/work rooms

#### *Element IB: Water and Grounds*

Baton Rouge Magnet High School has reduced their overall water consumption 71% from 2006 through 2015. Our innovative practices have earned us the Professional Grounds Management Society Green Star Merit Award. Students take responsibility for maintenance of our flower gardens by using spot irrigation and mulching, conserving water vs. sprinkler irrigation. Additionally, gardens contain mostly native and/or drought resistant plants to minimize water needs. Our water is from a municipal water source that is monitored by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

#### *Element IC: Waste*

Beginning in 2012-2013 school year, the Environmental Science Club coordinated a school-wide effort for recycling in classrooms. Recycling bins were placed in all classrooms, and students were responsible for maintaining the bins, sorting and delivering contents. That year, approximately 16,000 pounds of paper and plastics were recycled. Louisiana DEQ recognized these efforts in 2013 by awarding the BRMHS Environmental Science Club the Environmental Leadership Program Schools Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention. Since then, recycling efforts have increased significantly through promotion and awareness. Approximately 66.4 cubic yards (37,698 lbs) of office paper and 16.5 cubic yards (7,145 lbs) of newspaper were recycled by students last year.

Office and classroom paper are approved by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative with 10% certified forest



content and 90% certified sourcing. We are currently making a transition to online registration which will reduce paper use.

*Element ID: Alternative Transportation*

Our student population is 1485. A student survey was conducted in homeroom classrooms to assess our students' transportation practices to and from school. Approximately 0.8% of students walk to school, 0.3% bike, 46.4% primarily depend and use the bus, and 29.7% carpool.

**Pillar II: Improve the health and wellness of students and staff**

*Element IIA: Environmental Health*

Ventilation systems are filtrated using high-efficiency American AirFilter PerfectPleat Merv 8 filters. Chemicals are stored in a designated secure room. Chemistry classes use "small-scale" labs, the use of a well plate instead of test tubes and observe chemical reactions reducing the amount of materials used, thus reducing the amount of hazardous waste produced during labs. All chemicals used for science lab are secured in a room designated for this purpose, and procedures are in line with the Flinn Scientific Science Department Safety Training Notes. Chemicals are grouped and stored to prevent any accidental reactions. Furthermore, alcohols are stored in a separate cabinet with a "flammable" label, and acids are stored in wooden cabinets.

*Element IIB: Nutrition and Fitness*

All schools in our district serve menus planned by the Child Nutrition Program whose goal is to serve healthy, nutritious, appetizing and affordable meals to students. The administration believes that good nutrition is the key to learning, and that every child has the right to a healthy nutritious breakfast and lunch at the lowest possible price. Beginning last school year, all students in all grades of EBRPSS are offered one breakfast and one lunch each school day at no charge. The program follows USDA guidelines and considers healthy food preferences most preferred by students in EBR in an effort to encourage students to eat nutritious meals. BRMHS has recently installed two vending machines in the cafeteria as a pilot program that will expand that effort by offering salads, sandwiches, and yogurt parfait.

The Healthy Lifestyles club is partnered with Healthy Baton Rouge 5-2-1-0+10, an initiative introduced and coordinated by the Mayor's office, and the Student Alliance Council to provide training for students in implementing healthy initiatives in their schools.

*Element IIB (cont.): Coordinated School Health, Mental Health, School Climate, and Safety*

Baton Rouge Magnet High School has a full time nurse on staff through a partnership with Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center as part of the Health Centers in Schools program. In addition, seasonal flu



vaccines are and have been available to all East Baton Rouge school children since 2008. All students receive hearing and vision checks with the help of volunteer physicians from our community. The BRMHS Healthy Lifestyles Club, with the help of Health Centers in Schools held a drive to promote vaccination by advertising the service and offering treat bags to participants.

The Healthy Lifestyles club will also introduce Thirsty Thursdays for the spring semester where students will have an opportunity to purchase smoothies after school as a healthy alternative to the local fast food establishments frequently visited by our students before tutoring, rehearsals, and practices. The club is also currently organizing a Wellness Week that will take place before spring testing to offer stress relief tips, nutritional education, and free yoga and Jazzercise classes after school for both students and faculty.

63% (938) of students are enrolled in some form of a physical education classes. This includes traditional physical education which is required for all freshman and sophomore students, physical education classes for students participating in a formal athletic program, and dance classes. 13.5% (197) of students are enrolled in a health course that is required for all students. Our school has also partnered with another high school to offer Jr.ROTC for which 17 of our students participate. 23.1% (343) participate in sports teams including soccer, wrestling, golf, cross-country, tennis, bowling,

SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) coordinates school-wide events that promote safe and healthy behavior. During the Great American Smoke Out, members traditionally release balloons in memory of those affected by smoking and those that pledge to be smoke free. This year, the club opted for a more environmentally friendly method by using leaves in place of balloons that would eventually end up as litter and a threat to wildlife. The club also coordinates activities during Red Ribbon Week and Suicide Prevention Month, promotes safe driving (no texting) and hosts guest speakers from MADD before winter formal to dissuade students from using drugs and alcohol before and after the dance.

### **Pillar III: Effective Environmental and Sustainability Education**

#### *Pillar IIIA: Interdisciplinary Learning*

BRMHS is a performing arts magnet school and offers a plethora of opportunities for collaboration. The arts are integrated annually into the core courses through multi-disciplinary lessons/activities. For example, students produced public service announcements after a unit on ecology to promote awareness about Louisiana's coastal land loss. Videos were shared during our morning announcements video broadcast during National Estuaries Week.

Environmental Science teachers often collaborate with AP Human Geography teachers to address



similar content such as human population issues. Students participate regularly in several environmentally focused competitions (e.g., Envirothon, LEXUS Eco-Challenge, SAMSUNG Solve for Tomorrow, Science Olympiad, Science Fair, DECA Design Challenge). Our Drafting and Design Architecture course incorporates projects that focus on current environmental engineering issues (e.g., Solar Car Challenge, Strand Beast Design).

*Element IIIB: STEM Content, Knowledge, and Skills*

Over the last 6 years, BRMHS has seen exponential growth in environmental studies. From a humble beginning of just two sections of Environmental Science, our program has now expanded to 5 sections of Environmental Science and 3 sections of AP Environmental Science. We now reach an incredible 200 students every year! Not only has the program grown, but the rigor has grown with it. Our students consistently score higher than average on the AP test. In 2015, the average score for the AP exam was 2.6, while BRMHS averaged 3.4; 75% of our students passed the exam with a score of 3 or higher (enough to earn college credit). Not only are our students excelling in the classroom, they are branching out into competitions and community service projects.

Students enrolled in environmental courses are required to design and implement a service learning project. Projects cover a variety of topics including litter clean up, recycling, repurposing, animal welfare, working with the local food bank, proposing new bike lanes, church gardens, educational activities with after school elementary schools programs, and painting urban murals just to name a few. The personalization and student choice in this activity provides students with a sense of ownership and responsibility. Collecting data to show direct evidence of success enables students to see tangible results and take pride in their accomplishments. Students are often amazed at the amount of impact they are able to have on their community with proper planning and team work.

BRMHS students have participated in the Louisiana Earth Day Festival, a state-wide celebration with nearly 40,000 visitors, annually since 2010. The Environmental Science Club placed first twice in the Exxon-Mobil Science Challenge held at the festival as well as volunteering for environmental and cultural demonstrations and hands-on activities with the public.

BRMHS students partnered with Glen Oaks Park Elementary and LSU STEM/STEAM program to design and create a native-species pollinator garden and accompanying lessons with 5<sup>th</sup> graders participating in an after school enrichment program to improve student performance. Students were selected as 1 of five state finalists for the SAMSUNG Solve for Tomorrow Challenge for their efforts.

BRMHS Environmental Science Club is one of the more than 65 exhibitors from both public and private organizations at the annual Ocean Commotion celebration coordinated through the Louisiana Sea Grant



Program. This marine education event hosts more than 2,500 elementary and middle school students and provides interactive, hands-on learning about animals, plants and minerals found in the sea and coast of Louisiana.

Each year students from the Environmental AP class visit Dufroq Elementary School, located within walking distance of our campus, to read *The Lorax* to first grade students and provide a hands-on lesson on sustainability. Environmental science teachers presented best practices in environmental education this year at the NAAEE conference in San Diego.

Woods and Waters and 4H Clubs provide outdoor activities and an annual camping trip to members. Lastly, many of the 50+ clubs offered at BRMHS incorporate required service hours (e.g., Environmental, Habitat for Humanity, You Got Served, BETA, Key Club, DECA, National Honor Society, African Heritage, Girl Talk, and Junior Classical League).

*Submit 10 – 15 photos (with descriptions) and up to 10 minutes of video. These will not be scored. All photos and videos submitted must be permissioned for web and print use by Louisiana Department Of Education, LDWF, and U.S. Dept. of Education.*



*Students maintain flower gardens during regular beautification events.*



*BRMHS students teach local elementary students about sustainability through *The Lorax**



*Students gain hands-on experience at LUMCON, an ocean research center in Cocodrie, La.*



*Students demonstrate causes of coastal erosion at Ocean Commotion on LSU campus.*

